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Approved For Release 2003/12/02: CIA-RDP75-00001R000200630025-0

CIA OPERATIONS CENTER SELECT FOR THE DCI

STAT

Subject: SIHAMOUK PRESS CONFERENCE

Source : F1315 18

Date/Time Group:

Distribution: DCI, DDCI, EX/DIR, DDI (2), DDP (via CSDO), DDS&T, D/OCI (4), C/OPSCEN, D/ONE, C/CGS, D/OSI, CH/WATCH COMM, SAVA. CSDO, PDB, INDICO, ORR/CSS, SDO, Added: DDS.

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SIMANOUK PRESS CONFERENCE

PRIOR PENH IN FRENCH TO SOUTHEAST ASIA 0600Z 22 MAR 67 S

REPORTAGE ON A PRESS CONFERENCE HELD BY PRINCE SIHANOUK ON 22 WARCH IN PHNOM PENH)

(EDITORIAL REPORT) PRINCE SIHANOUK BEGINS BY ANNOUNCING A REPORT RECEIVED FROM A FRIEND CONCERNING THE PRESENCE OF CIA AGENTS IN THE NEU GOVERNMENT AND ASSEMBLY AND THE FACT THAT CERTAIN KHMER OFFICERS DO OTHER OFFICIALS WORK FOR THE UNITED STATES. HE SAID THE FRIEND THENED THE NEWS FROM A CIA AGENT NAMED (GEORGES BROWN DURING A FLIGHT FROM TOKYO TO SAIGON VIA HONG KONG. THE FRIEND REPORTED THAT HALCOLM) CONFIDED THAT THE AMERICANS HAVE DECIDED TO ELIMINATE SIHANOUK SOON. HE SAID IT TOOK THE CIA TWO YEARS TO DEBUNK PRESIDENT SUKARNO.

PRINCE SIHANOUK SAYS THE AMERICANS WILL DO THE SAME THING IN CAMBODIA AS THEY HAVE ALREADY DONE WITH BEN BELLA, NKRUMAH, AND OTHERS. THE PRINCE GOES ON TO RELATE (MALCOLM'S) STORY THAT THE MERICANS WILL USE TRICKERY INSTEAD OF INVADING CAMBODIA AND THAT DE GAULLE HAS STERNLY WARNED THE U.S. STATE DEPARTMENT AGAINST HARMING STRANGUK AND CAMBODIA.

PRINCE SIHANOUK SAYS THAT (MALCOLM) PREDICTED THAT "BY THE END OF THIS YEAR THE COUP WILL SUCCEED DUE TO THE ACCOMPLICES WE HAVE SECURED IN CAMBODIA, THAT IS, SYMPATHIZERS IN THE KHMER ASSEMBLY AND GOVERNMENT, ROYAL PALACE, AND TWO HIGH-RANKING OFFICERS WITH LARGE DEPOSITS IN A SWISS BANK WHO HAVE BEEN ENTRUSTED WITH STAGING A COUP AGAINST SINANOUK WITH THE HELP OF THE ARMY. PRINCE SINANOUK ASSERTS THAT HE DOES NOT THE NAMES OF THE TWO OFFICERS WHO RECEIVE HONEY FROM CIA-OPERATED BANK DEPOSITS.

CLASSIFICATION